

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Claims 1-34 stand rejected. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims as amended is requested for the following reasons.

The present invention is directed to a method for providing a replaceable area illumination light source depositing light emitting materials on a flat, flexible substrate in a two-dimensional configuration for shipment. The light source is shipped in its two-dimensional configuration and flexed to be placed in a curved three-dimensional configuration within a lighting fixture. Claims 1, 17, and 26 have been amended to emphasize that the light source is an area emitting light sources produced by depositing light emitting materials between electrodes.

The 103 Rejections

Claims 1-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Atchinson et al. (US 6,371,637).

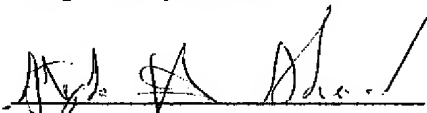
Atchinson discloses a flexible printed circuit board with LEDs. Area-emitting light sources cannot be formed on a printed circuit board. Therefore, this is not an area emitting light source layer formed by depositing light emitting materials between electrodes as set forth in the present claims.

Further, Atchinson's LEDs are not two-dimensional. Rather, each LED of Atchinson is essentially a point source. While Atchinson's Fig. 10 certainly shows a two-dimensional array light sources, the emitters that make up the array are themselves point sources. The presently-claimed two-dimensional area emitting light sources are distinguished from a two-dimensional array of point sources.

Applicants have reviewed the cited art made of record and believe that singly or in any suitable combination, they do not render Applicants' claimed invention unpatentable. It is believed that the claims in the application are allowable over the cited art and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner consider that additional amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, please call the undersigned counsel for the purpose of discussing such amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen H. Shaw', is written over a horizontal line.

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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company's Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.